



**Rotterdam Convention on the Prior
Informed Consent Procedure for
Certain Hazardous Chemicals and
Pesticides in International Trade**

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Chemical Review Committee

Sixth meeting

Geneva, 15–19 March 2010

Item 3 of the provisional agenda*

**Review of the outcome of the fourth meeting of the
Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention
relevant to the Committee's work**

**Additional information relevant to the implementation of
decision RC-4/11 on enhancing cooperation and coordination
among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions**

Note by the Secretariat

1. By decisions IX/10 of the Conference of the Parties to the Basel Convention, RC-4/11 of the Conference of the Parties to the Rotterdam Convention and SC-4/34 of the Conference of the Parties of the Stockholm Convention, known as the “synergies decisions”, the secretariats of the three conventions were mandated to carry out several activities related to organizational issues in the field (part I of the decisions), technical issues (part II of the decisions) and information management and public awareness issues (part III of the decisions).
2. By section C of part II of the above-mentioned decisions, on cooperation on technical and scientific issues, the Conference of the Parties requested the three secretariats to facilitate the exchange of relevant information between the technical and scientific bodies of the three conventions through the sharing of information with one another, with the secretariat of the Strategic Approach to International Chemicals Management and with other relevant intergovernmental bodies concerning the procedures developed and the chemicals being discussed under the three conventions. The Conference of the Parties also requested the three secretariats to maintain or establish cooperation on technical issues that related to more than one of the three conventions, involving other bodies and institutions beyond the three conventions as appropriate.
3. Discussions are continuing among the three secretariats in the context of an inter-secretariat thematic group established specifically to consider the issue of cooperation on technical and scientific issues.
4. The secretariats are working together to ensure that information is exchanged on chemicals being considered for inclusion in or that have recently been added to the respective conventions.

* UNEP/FAO/RC/CRC.6/1.

5. The secretariats have developed a list of chemicals common to the three conventions to support parties' implementation of the life-cycle approach to chemicals management.
6. The secretariats will also share information between themselves on the work of the Rotterdam Convention's Chemical Review Committee, the Stockholm Convention's Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee and the Basel Convention's Open-ended Working Group and identify possible formalized processes for consultation between these bodies, for instance, to discuss possible updating of relevant technical guidelines and chemicals under discussion.
7. During the planning process for meetings of the technical and scientific bodies of the conventions, the secretariat organizing the meeting will inform the other two convention secretariats, the secretariat of the Strategic Approach and other relevant bodies of issues pertinent to them.
8. To this effect, the report of the fifth meeting of the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.5/10), the general guidance on considerations related to alternatives and substitutes for listed persistent organic pollutants and candidate chemicals (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.5/10/Add.1) and the risk profile for endosulfan (UNEP/POPS/POPRC.5/10/Add.2), can be found on that convention's website (www.pops.int). The seventh session of the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention is scheduled to take place from 10 to 14 May 2010, in Geneva. The provisional agenda for that meeting is set out in the annex to the present note.
9. The secretariats of the Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions organized in November 2009 in Cairo a joint workshop comprising members of the Chemical Review Committee and the Persistent Organic Pollutants Review Committee to enhance the effectiveness of these committees' work. The next such workshop is expected to take place in Latin America and the Caribbean in May 2010. Designated national authorities and focal points from the region are encouraged to participate.

Annex

Provisional agenda for the seventh session of the Open-ended Working Group of the Basel Convention

1. Opening of the session.
 2. Adoption of the agenda.
 3. Organization of the session.
 4. Cooperation and coordination among the Basel, Rotterdam and Stockholm conventions.
 5. Strategic issues:
 - (a) Strategic Plan and new strategic framework;
 - (b) Basel Convention regional and coordinating centres;
 - (c) Basel Convention Partnership Programme;
 - (d) Indonesian-Swiss country-led initiative to improve the effectiveness of the Basel Convention.
 6. Scientific and technical matters:
 - (a) Technical guidelines;
 - (b) Classification and hazard characterization of wastes;
 - (c) Review of issues raised under the Mobile Phone Partnership Initiative.
 7. Legal and compliance matters:
 - (a) Environmentally sound dismantling of ships;
 - (b) Cooperation between the Convention and the International Maritime Organization;
 - (c) Implementation of decision V/32 on enlargement of the scope of the Trust Fund to Assist Developing and Other Countries in Need of Technical Assistance in the Implementation of the Basel Convention;
 - (d) Enforcement of the Convention and efforts to combat illegal traffic;
 - (e) Legal guidance;
 - (f) Addressing the interpretation of paragraph 5 of Article 17 of the Convention.
 8. Resource mobilization and sustainable financing: review of the implementation of decision VIII/34.
 9. International cooperation and coordination: review of the implementation of decision IX/11.
 10. Financial matters.
 11. Work programme of the Open-ended Working Group for 2012–2013.
 12. Preparation of draft decisions for consideration by the Conference of the Parties at its tenth meeting.
 13. Organization of the tenth meeting of the Conference of the Parties.
 14. Other matters.
 15. Adoption of the draft decisions and the report of the session.
 16. Closure of the session.
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